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Dear Organizers,

I am writing to recommend Dr Maria Tsedrik for attendance at the Hong Kong Laureate Forum. I have been the post-doctoral supervisor of Dr Tsedrik for around six months, and before that was a member of her PhD review panel, so I have a good overview of her abilities and work.

Dr Tsedrik is an excellent cosmologist, with exceptional mathematical and computational skills. She completed her 3.5-year PhD about six months ago, and has published three first author papers which connect the challenging physics of modified gravity and the dark sector with the latest cosmological measurements. She thus has expertise in cosmological perturbation theory (and beyond it in the modelling of smaller scale physics) and cosmological inference, including the modelling of cosmological observables - this combination is the key to the next generation (Stage IV) of survey analysis.

Since coming to work with me Dr Tsedrik has begun work on machine learning-accelerated inference methods. Here she has deeply explored the extensive literature on cosmological observable emulation using neural networks and gaussian processes, and her understanding of this area is already at the cutting edge.

I also note that the forum is multi-disciplinary, and this will suit Dr Tsedrik extremely well - she has a wide general curiosity, as well as a gift for communicating between fields. She would in all respects be a strong asset to the forum, and I am pleased to very strongly recommend her for it.

Kind Regards

Prof. Joe Zuntz